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State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

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Division Director

Inspection Report

Supervisor JOH

Minerals Regulatory Program
Date of Report: December 11, 2007

Mine Name: Asphalt Ridge
Operator Name: Uintah County Road Department

Permit number: M0470022
Inspection Date: November 26,
2007
Time: 2:00-3:30 PM

Inspector(s): Paul Baker, Tom Munson, and Beth Ericksen

Other Participants: Quentin Johnson and Tammy Ferguson (Uintah County Road Department), Dave Haslem (Uintah County Commissioner), and Mike and Jordan (I did not ask their last names; they do GIS work for Uintah County)

Mine Status: Inactive

Weather: Mostly clear, 40s

Elements of Inspection

	Evaluated	Comment	Enforcement
1. Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Public Safety (shafts, adits, trash, signs, highwalls)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Protection of Drainages / Erosion Control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Deleterious Material	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Roads (maintenance, surfacing, dust control, safety)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Concurrent Reclamation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Backfilling/Grading (trenches, pits, roads, highwalls, shafts, drill holes)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Water Impoundments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Revegetation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Air Quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Purpose of Inspection:

Several changes have been made to the site since the operator last updated the reclamation plan. Most notable is the processing plant which is in an area that used to be in the county's permit area. Because of these changes, the Division asked the county to update the reclamation plan, and the reason for the inspection was to discuss backfilling and grading requirements.

Inspection Summary:

1. Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds

On August 23, 2007, the Division wrote the Uintah County Road Department and asked that they update the reclamation plan, particularly the backfilling and grading plan, because site conditions had changed since the plan was originally written. The due date was October 1, 2007, but the Division has now given extensions to January 25, 2008, to submit the plan.

7. Backfilling/Grading (trenches, pits, roads, highwalls, shafts, drill holes)

It is difficult to describe in narrative form the areas and the solutions we discussed, but this is my attempt.

There is a large pile of overburden that was pushed down from where the operator mined or had planned to mine on the north side of the permit area. There is a lot of exposed tar sand in this area, but it looks like little of it was mined. We discussed various options for regrading the area. We basically decided that some material would need to come from the overburden pile. There is a limited amount of material from an upper bench on the northwest side of the area we examined that could be pushed down.

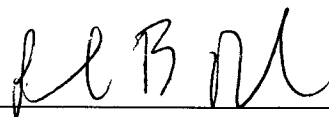
To the south of the area where we focused our discussion is a reclaimed area, and just to the north of this area is an area with piles of loose asphalt. North of this is a swale into which some of the asphalt could be graded. The operator might be able to get soil from the overburden pile.

On the extreme north end of the disturbed area is a highwall right next to a drainage. I do not know how reclamation of this area should be addressed; there did not appear to be any readily available material to backfill against the highwall.

Conclusions and Recommendations:

Although we decided upon some issues, there are others that the county will still need to address in the forthcoming reclamation plan.

Inspector's Signature



Date:



PBB:pb

cc: Quentin Johnson, Uintah County Road Department